

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 28, ~~wherein~~ having a distance e separating the plane of the support strip and the plane of the ~~[[heel]]~~ third part, and said distance e is greater than or equal to a distance d between two juxtaposed inserts.
4. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 28, ~~wherein~~ having the inserts ~~are~~ fastened to the support trough via ~~means which allow them to be disassembled~~ tenons on the inserts capable of being inserted into openings within the support trough.
5. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 4, ~~wherein~~ the slat compris[[es]]ing a trough having in particular two lateral walls whose upper ends are folded inward, each forming an oblique fold provided with a plurality of openings or slots distributed over the whole length of the said folds, which openings ensure that the inserts are distributed and accommodate lugs formed on each side edge of the said inserts, the assembly of the lugs in the corresponding openings taking place ~~elastically and by~~ clipping.
6. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 28, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with no~~ greater than that which will maintain[[ing]] the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 2, ~~wherein~~ having the inserts ~~are~~ fastened to the support trough via ~~means which allow them to be disassembled~~ tenons on the inserts capable of being inserted into openings within the support trough.

10. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 3, ~~wherein~~ having the inserts are fastened to the support trough via ~~means which allow them to be disassembled~~ tenons on the inserts capable of being inserted into openings within the support trough.

11. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 2, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with no~~ greater than that which will maintain[[ing]] the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.

12. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 3, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with no~~ greater than that which will maintain[[ing]] the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.

13. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 4, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with no~~ greater than that which will maintain[[ing]] the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.

14. (Currently Amended) Slat according to Claim 5, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with no~~ greater than that which will maintain[[ing]] the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that

of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table according to Claim 29, comprising a plurality of juxtaposed slats, ~~wherein~~ each insert additionally further compris[[es]]ing a third part, which is substantially parallel to the first part and forms a heel connected to the oblique strip along another fold line.

24. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table according to Claim 23, comprising a plurality of juxtaposed slats, ~~wherein~~ and having a distance e separating the plane of the support strip and the plane of the [[heel]] third part, and said distance e is greater than or equal to a distance d between two juxtaposed inserts.

25. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table according to Claim 24, comprising a plurality of juxtaposed slats, ~~wherein~~ having the inserts [[are]] fastened to the support trough via means which allow them to be disassembled tenons on the inserts capable of being inserted into openings within the support trough.

26. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table according to Claim 25, comprising a plurality of juxtaposed slats, ~~wherein~~ the slat compris[[es]]ing a trough having in particular two lateral walls whose upper ends are folded inwards, each forming an oblique fold provided with a plurality of openings or slots distributed over the whole length of the said folds, which openings ensure that the inserts are distributed and accommodate lugs formed on each side edge of the said

inserts, the assembly of the lugs in the corresponding openings taking place ~~elastically and by clipping.~~

27. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table according to Claim 26, comprising a plurality of juxtaposed slats, ~~wherein~~ the insert ~~[[has]]~~ having a material void ~~over~~ with a maximum area ~~compatible with~~ no greater than that which will maintain~~[[ing]]~~ the rigidity of the said insert spanning the area of the void, which void makes it possible on the one hand to ~~significantly~~ reduce the weight of each insert, and consequently that of the slat, and, on the other hand, makes it possible to achieve ~~better~~ heat dissipation by allowing air or another agent to circulate within the said slats.

28. (Currently Amended) Slat for a laser beam cutting machine table, comprising:

a. a trough which contains a plurality of spaced apart inserts arranged parallel or substantially parallel to one another, ~~wherein~~ and:

b. each insert in the trough takes the form of a folded thin sheet-metal plate which compris~~[[ing]]~~es: at least a first part having a free upper edge, ~~and~~ a second oblique part for deflecting a laser beam having a direction of incidence perpendicular to a supporting plane at a distance from the supporting plane connected with the first part along a fold line which is distinct from the free upper edge and located at a distance from the free upper edge, the free upper edges of the first parts of the inserts defining ~~[[a]]~~ the supporting plane for a product to be cut, and a third part on a plane parallel to said first part and oblique to said second oblique part and connected to said second part by a fold line;

c. said first part of said sheet-metal plate having opposed main faces extending from said free upper edge substantially parallel to one another in a direction perpendicular to said supporting plane; and

d. said second part of said sheet-metal plate being inclined by an oblique ~~non-zero~~ angle with respect to said direction perpendicular to said supporting plane~~[[,]]~~ ~~whereby said second part constitutes an oblique strip for deflecting a laser beam having a direction of incidence perpendicular to said supporting plane and said deflection takes place at a distance from the supporting plane.~~

29. (Currently Amended) Laser-cutting machine table, comprising:

a. a plurality of juxtaposed slats, each comprising a trough which contains a plurality of juxtaposed inserts arranged parallel or substantially parallel to one another, ~~wherein~~ and:

b. each insert in the trough takes the form of a folded thin sheet-metal plate which compris[ing]es: ~~at least~~ a first part having a free upper edge, ~~and~~ a second oblique part for deflecting a laser beam having a direction of incidence perpendicular to a supporting plane at a distance from the supporting plane connected with the first part along a fold line which is distinct from the free upper edge and located at a distance from the free upper edge, the free upper edges of the first parts of the inserts defining ~~[[a]]~~ the supporting plane for a product to be cut;

c. said first part of said sheet-metal plate having opposed main faces extending from said free upper edge substantially parallel to one another in a direction perpendicular to said supporting plane; and

d. said second part of said sheet-metal plate being inclined by an oblique non-zero angle with respect to said direction perpendicular to said supporting plane~~[[,]]~~ ~~whereby said second part constitutes an oblique strip for deflecting a laser beam having a direction of incidence perpendicular to said supporting plane and said deflection takes place at a distance from the supporting plane.~~